

Amendments to the Claims

The Claim Listing below replaces all prior versions of the claims in the subject application.

Claim Listing:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for downloading a file from a remote storage center to an end-user computer for content provided from a content server, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

receiving a request from an end-user computer for content at a content server;

transmitting from said content server to said end-user computer, in response to said end-user request, said content comprising at least one storage resource locator ("SRL"), wherein said SRL comprises a unique file identifier generated from the contents of the file to identify the file associated with said content, the SRL including a field generated based upon hashing involving both a shared secret and another field of the SRL, the another field being generated based upon a hash of the contents of the file;

transmitting a request for said file from said end-user computer to a remote storage center, including transmitting said SRL for said file; and

transmitting, from said storage center to said end-user computer, said file identified by said SRL.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

transmitting from said content server to said end-user computer an SRL ~~further~~ comprising an authentication certificate;

determining, at said storage center, using said authentication certificate, whether said request is valid; and

transmitting, from said storage center to said end-user computer, said file only if said request is valid.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

transmitting to said end-user computer an SRL further comprising a time-out parameter; and

determining whether said request is valid through said time-out parameter.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~:

embedding said SRL into said content after receiving said request from an end-user computer for said content.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein the ~~step of~~ transmitting content comprises [:] transmitting hyper-text mark-up language ("HTML") content; and

the ~~step of~~ embedding said SRL into said content comprises the ~~step of~~ embedding said SRL into said HTML.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein the ~~step of~~ embedding said SRL into said content comprises the ~~steps of~~:

storing at least one SRL for a file in an SRL file; and

extracting said SRL from said SRL file.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 4, wherein the ~~step of~~ embedding said SRL into said content comprises the ~~steps of~~:

coupling a local device comprising a cache to said content server;

storing at least one SRL for at least one file in said cache of said local device;

and

extracting said SRL from said cache of said local device.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 7, further comprising ~~the step of~~:

mounting said local device as a storage device for said content server for access to said SRLs.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

storing at least one SRL for at least one file in an SRL file;

storing said file for access by a file system; and

organizing said SRL files in a file system, accessible to said content server, with a file structure substantially similar to said file structure for said files.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

the ~~step of~~ transmitting a request for said file from said end-user computer to a remote storage center comprises ~~the step of~~ transmitting a hyper-text transfer protocol ("HTTP") request; and

the ~~step of~~ transmitting said file from said storage center to said end-user computer comprises ~~the step of~~ transmitting said files using HTTP.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 10, wherein the ~~step of~~ transmitting, from said storage center to said end-user computer, said file comprises ~~the step of~~ transferring a large media object.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A system comprising:

content server for receiving a request from an end-user computer for content, and for transmitting to said end-user computer, in response to said end-user request, said content comprising at least one storage resource locator ("SRL"), wherein said SRL comprises a unique file identifier generated from the contents of a file to identify the file associated with said content, the SRL including a field generated based upon hashing involving both a shared secret and another field of the SRL, the another field being generated based upon a hash of the contents of the file; and

storage center for receiving a request for said file from said end-user computer, including transmitting said SRL for said file, and for transmitting, from to said end-user computer, said file identified by said SRL.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 12, wherein:

    said SRL further comprises an authentication certificate; and

    said storage center is also for determining whether said request is valid using said authentication certificate, and for ~~and~~ transmitting to said end-user computer said file only if said request is valid.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 12, wherein:

    said SRL further comprises a time-out parameter; and

    said storage center is also for determining whether said request is valid through said time-out parameter.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 12, wherein said content server further comprises comprising processes for embedding said SRL into said content after receiving said request from an end-user computer for said content.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 15, wherein:

    said content comprises mark-up language ("HTML") content; and

    said content server further comprises comprising processes for embedding said SRL into said HTML.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 15, wherein:

    said SRL further comprises comprising an SRL file; and

    said content server further comprises comprising processes for extracting said SRL from said SRL file.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 12, further comprising a local device, coupled to said content server, that includes a cache for storing at least one SRL for at least one file in said cache of said local device, wherein said content server further comprises comprising processes for extracting said SRL from said cache of said local device.

Claim 19 (original): The system as set forth in claim 18, wherein said content server comprises processes for mounting said local device as a storage device to said SRLs.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The system as set forth in claim 19, further comprising a file system, accessible to said content server, including at least one SRL file for storing at least one SRL, wherein said file system comprises comprising a file structure substantially similar to a file structure for said files.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A storage center comprising:

storage for storing a plurality of files;

storage control for receiving a request from an end-user computer, remote from said storage center, for at least one file, and for transmitting said file to said end-user computer, said request comprising at least one storage resource locator ("SRL") corresponding to said file, and wherein said SRL comprises a unique file identifier generated from the contents of a file to identify the file associated with content that said end-user computer downloaded from a content server, the SRL including a field generated based upon hashing involving both a shared secret and another field of the SRL, the another field being generated based upon a hash of the contents of the file.

22 (currently amended): The storage center as set forth in claim 21, wherein:

    said SRL further comprises an authentication certificate; and

    said storage center is also for determining whether said request is valid using said authentication certificate, and for transmitting to said end-user computer said file only if said request is valid.

23 (currently amended): The storage center as set forth in claim 21, wherin:

    said SRL further comprises a time-out parameter; and

    said storage center is also for determining whether said request is valid through  
    said time-out parameter.

24 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the another field identifies an  
operation to be performed involving the file and also includes the hash of the contents  
of the file the unique file identifier is generated by performing a hash calculation on the  
contents of the file.